

2004 ELECTION

STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 12



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The future of Hawaii, the most isolated major archipelago in the world, can be immeasurably enhanced by using our existing resources more efficiently and effectively. We do this by enhancing our transportation system, establishing a more equitable tax structure and applying technology to reduce the cost of government operations.

Transportation: Hawaii needs an inter-island vehicular ferry system to stimulate commerce, and provide our people with a cost-effective alternative to travel by plane and shipping by barge. We must also promote competition in ocean shipping between Asia and Hawaii. This will dramatically reduce costs for Hawaii consumers, expand opportunities for local businesses and stimulate overall economic growth within the State.

Tax Reform: Your tax dollars should not be frittered away through tax credits and direct grants-in-aid to special interest groups. We need to eliminate the taxes on business-to-business transactions. Our state income tax can be made more equitable by setting the standard deduction and personal exemption to the same levels used by the IRS.

Technology: It is only during periods of full-employment that it is politically acceptable to reduce the size and cost of state government through appropriate use of technology. For example, the massive bureaucracy and red tape of our public welfare and assistance programs could be dramatically reduced through the introduction of a "smart card" program for recipients. Adopting a biometric ID card system would eliminate fraud and ensure that the benefits go directly to intended persons without public employee intervention.

